



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service
Louisiana Crop Progress and Condition Report



Delta Region - Louisiana Field Office
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Cooperating with Louisiana Department of Agriculture & Forestry

Week Ending March 15, 2015

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Louisiana, there was 0.4 day suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending Sunday, March 15, 2015**. Topsoil moisture supplies were 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 15 percent adequate, and 85 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture supplies were 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 19 percent adequate, and 81 percent surplus. Low temperatures ranged from 46.9 degrees Fahrenheit at Calhoun to 61.0 degrees Fahrenheit at Galliano. Highs ranged from 53.5 degrees Fahrenheit at Homer to 74.0 degrees Fahrenheit at Donaldsonville and New Orleans. The precipitation for this week was spread throughout the state, with the highest concentration in the northwest part of the state with an average of 5.01 inches.

Crop progress for week ending March 15, 2015				
Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Corn, planted	0	0	3	20
Rice, planted	0	0	3	9
Winter Wheat, headed	1	0	0	3

Crop condition for week ending March 15, 2015					
Item	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Livestock	1	5	53	39	2
Pasture	6	24	41	26	3
Sugarcane	5	12	54	26	3
Vegetables	4	31	40	23	2
Winter Wheat	4	22	41	32	1

Comments from Parish Agents

“Rain continues to hamper crop production at this time.”

– B Barton Joffrion Jr., Terrebonne Parish

“Continued rain is causing a delay in sweet potato bedding and will most likely delay corn planting significantly.”

– Bruce Garner, West Carroll Parish

“With continued rains, soil is super saturated and will be a while before preparation can take place, although with these sandy soils, drying out is rapid with adequate days of sunshine.”

– Henry Harrison, Washington Parish

“Rice farmers are waiting for ground to dry and weather to stabilize to begin planting this week. Cattle producers are grazing a good ryegrass crop and still feeding and haying some. Summer pastures are beginning to green. Calving is at a peak time. Sugarcane farmers should begin putting down winter weed control and pre-emerge chemicals when ground dries.”

– Andrew Granger, Vermilion Parish

“Extremely wet conditions have delayed corn, and rice as well as spring vegetable garden land preparation and planting. Fall forages are good but beginning to show stress from wet weather with trampling and reduced growth with no sunshine. Crawfish production is good but catch has been very erratic both in quantity and size and fluctuates greatly across the parish.”

– Keith A Fontenot, Evangeline Parish

“Rain during the past few weeks has slowed farmers from getting in fields in order to start spring spraying and cultivation. Cold and wet winter has sugarcane off to a slow start. Cattle seemed to have survived the winter in good shape with most cows having nice calves on their sides. Nearly all hay has been consumed with rye grass pastures holding their own despite the cold and wet winter. Hopefully this continues until summer grasses can be utilized. Some early planted gardens were replanted following the cold weather received during the first week of March.”

– Blair Hebert, Iberia Parish

Louisiana Weather Summary for Week Ending March 15, 2015										
Division/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	Rain Days	DFN	Four Weeks	Four Weeks DFN
Northwest										
Minden	58.9	50.3	54.6	54.6	0.0	4.18	5	3.12	10.11	5.24
Mooringsport	55.3	49.1	52.2	55.6	-3.4	4.22	6	3.27	9.87	5.58
Red River	57.7	49.9	53.8	55.9	-2.1	NA	NA	NA	9.58	5.53
Shreveport	57.6	51.3	54.4	55.6	-1.2	6.63	6	5.59	12.35	7.93
Extreme/Average	57.4	50.2	53.8	55.4	-1.7	5.01	6	3.99	10.48	6.07
North Central										
Calhoun	63.0	46.9	54.9	54.3	0.6	3.24	5	2.05	10.16	5.16
Farmerville	59.4	50.9	55.1	55.5	-0.3	NA	NA	NA	11.10	6.53
Homer	53.5	47.8	50.6	53.2	-2.2	2.94	5	2.62	8.37	6.26
Extreme/Average	58.6	48.5	53.6	54.3	-0.6	3.09	5	2.33	9.88	5.98
Northeast										
Lake Providence	65.6	50.9	58.2	54.7	3.5	1.62	5	0.81	6.42	4.23
St Joseph	69.7	54.4	62.1	57.2	4.9	3.46	4	2.15	9.21	3.92
Tallulah	67.7	50.7	59.2	56.4	2.9	2.43	5	1.55	8.73	4.15
Winnsboro	NA	NA	NA	56.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.94	0.13
Extreme/Average	67.7	52.0	59.8	56.2	3.8	2.50	5	1.50	6.33	3.11
West Central										
Ashland	NA	NA	NA	55.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Hodges Gardens	55.3	48.0	51.7	57.0	-4.7	1.21	4	0.73	5.59	1.41
Leesville	64.1	51.1	57.6	57.9	-0.3	2.52	4	1.50	6.13	1.53
Natchitoches	61.3	50.7	56.0	58.1	-2.1	3.03	6	2.03	6.72	2.24
Extreme/Average	60.2	49.9	55.1	57.2	-2.4	2.25	6	1.42	6.15	1.73
Central										
Alexandria	67.1	52.6	59.9	58.3	1.6	NA0	NA	NA	7.12	1.91
Bunkie	69.6	51.9	60.7	58.8	1.9	3.79	5	2.69	8.09	3.18
Eunice	NA	NA	NA	60.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Jonesville Locks	66.1	53.3	59.7	57.1	2.6	2.75	3	1.51	7.36	2.07
New Roads	71.4	57.7	64.6	59.3	5.3	2.25	4	1.28	8.31	3.52
Extreme/Average	68.5	53.9	61.2	58.8	2.9	2.93	5	1.83	7.72	2.67
East Central										
Baton Rouge	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.86	6	0.83	5.92	1.08
Hammond	NA	NA	NA	59.0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Norwood	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	3.06	4	NA	9.30	NA
Slidell	70.4	58.6	64.5	NA	NA	3.34	5	NA	5.96	NA
Extreme/Average	70.4	58.6	64.5	59.0	NA	2.75	6	0.83	7.06	1.08
Southwest										
Crowley	70.0	57.1	63.6	59.6	4.0	2.56	6	1.68	5.64	1.61
DeRidder	67.3	51.9	59.6	59.3	0.3	1.88	5	0.79	5.17	0.62
Jennings	67.4	55.4	61.4	59.8	1.7	1.63	4	0.73	4.76	0.79
Oberlin Fire	66.1	51.3	58.7	59.5	-0.8	2.09	6	1.14	8.00	3.54
Extreme/Average	67.7	53.9	60.8	59.5	1.3	2.04	6	1.08	5.89	1.64
South Central										
Donaldsonville	74.0	60.6	67.3	60.1	7.2	1.43	5	0.52	5.08	0.66
Jeanerette	70.3	57.6	63.9	60.6	3.3	2.66	5	1.84	4.20	0.41
Lafayette	70.6	56.9	63.7	59.8	3.9	2.33	6	1.42	6.83	2.58
Morgan City	73.0	58.6	65.8	60.6	5.2	2.30	5	1.39	2.97	-0.95
Extreme/Average	72.0	58.4	65.2	60.3	4.9	2.18	6	1.29	4.77	0.68
Southeast										
Galliano	73.4	61.0	67.2	61.5	5.7	3.83	6	2.77	5.55	1.07
Gonzales	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.67	6	0.66	6.50	1.80
Grand Isle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
New Orleans	74.0	59.5	66.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Extreme/Average	73.7	60.3	67.0	61.5	5.7	2.75	6	1.72	4.83	1.44
State	66.6	54.0	60.3	58.2	1.7	2.79	5	1.73	7.03	2.70

DFN = Departure from Normal.
Normal = Averaged Collected Data from the Years 1981-2010.
NA = Not Available.